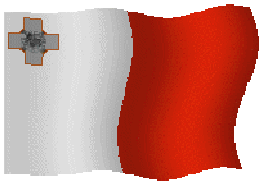
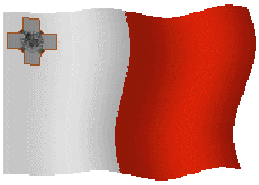


MARL MALTA



Magazine by MARL

For Maltese and Gozitan Radio Amateurs

Number 50

May 2010

Smoking is prohibited at the Centre

From the Editor

Friends,
I welcome you to another issue of this magazine for April 2010, which is issue 49 of this series.

I thank and congratulate the emergency group who during the Pope's visit in Malta between 17 and 18 April worked to provide communications when needed as well as providing communications by television from the Floriana Granaries.

Communication by television was important because although commercial stations were broadcasting the ceremony, radio amateurs could accede to requests by the communications centre so that the camera operator could pan the camera to any section of the crowd as requested and therefore provide a clear picture of what was happening to the communications centre.

Direct television transmission is always much better than using only radio because those managing the operations even from centres that are not co-sited will have a picture of what is happening. In this magazine you have some photos of this operation.

Now that the agreement for the loan of the caravan allocated to **MARL** by the Civil Protection Department has been signed it has passed into **MARL's** possession. In this issue you have some of its photos. I remind you that we had a number of companies who gave us equipment to be used by **MARL** for any emergency and we thank them for this. Details of this equipment will be given in some other issue of this magazine.

I remind you that **MARL** has already installed antennas in Civil Protection Department centres for our equipment so that if God forbid there is an emergency the volunteers will not have to put up the antennas at that time, but they will always be ready. However, these volunteers always take other antennas with them so that they could put a number of stations that would be working simultaneously.

You also have an e-mail that was sent by Mr Patrick Murgo, Director Civil Protection Department as well as a press release sent by the Minister for Justice and Internal Affairs, the Honourable Carm Mifsud Bonnici to thank all those who participated in the organisation of the Pope's visit among us.

As always, I hope that you find the information in the magazine useful to you and if you have some article please leave it in my **QSL** box or you can send it to me on my e-mail **9h1av at searchmalta dot com**.

Lawrence
9H1AV/9H9MHR/9H79AV

Photos

These photos are of the caravan being painted by the emergency group.

Photos 9H1AV/9H9MHR/9H79AV

These are photos of the caravan being given the finishing touches and the result.

Photos 9H1PI Ivan

The following are some photos of the operations during the Pope's visit during which the emergency group radio amateurs worked as usual with the Civil Protection Department from several locations.

The telecommunications caravan that was stationed in Valletta was also used as well as equipment given to **MARL** for this purpose by a number of companies whom we thank for their inestimable help.

Other radio amateurs who were in communication centres as well as roaming as required according to circumstances as usual used their personal equipment to provide the required communications.

The radio amateurs did so during the visit in groups who relieved each other so that there was no interruption in the service they were giving. In fact, when the groups were changing their equipment in communications centres, this was changed one by one and tried before the other person disconnected his equipment.

Thanks to all those who took part as well as all those who left their antennas, coax cables and other things so that those who came after them did not have to change them to use their own, because although in certain places there are antennas and coax cables, others are always being taken to have more than one equipment that is being used simultaneously.

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TV link

Part of the Valletta group

9H1VW **9H1AA, 9H1PI**

Photos 9H1AA George

Part of the group at a Civil Protection Department Centre

9H1AK 9H1XE 9H1SF

Photo 9H1AV/9H9MHR/9H79AV

Thanks from the Civil Protection Department

The following is a press release by the Minister for Justice and Internal Affairs Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici to thank all those who participated in the organisation during the Pope's visit and sent to the **MARL** emergency group by Mr Patrick Murgo because the emergency group is part of the Civil Protection Department volunteers. The communication by Mr Murgo said that:-

Sirs,
The document annexed with this e-mail refers to the thanks made by the Honourable Minister Dr. Carm Mifsud Bonnici for the work done by this Department during His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI visit.

This work could not have been carried out without the work of every one of you. Therefore I request you to pass this message to everyone who participate din the preparations and the occasions to make this visit a success.

Patrick Murgo
Director
Civil Protection Department
Ta' Kandja l/o Siggiewi SGW 2610
Malta.
Tel. +356 2393 0000
Fax. +356 2146 2607

The press release by the Minister states that:-

THANKS FOR THE WORK OF THE SECURITY FORCES

"The Minister for Justice and Internal Affairs the Hon. Carm Mifsud Bonnici expresses his appreciation to all the members of the security forces for their indispensible work during the visit of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI during the weekend.

Te sense of sacrifice shown by the security forces, among them the Police Corps and the Civil Protection Department, not only during the two days of HH visit, but also during the preparations and planning that had been going on since months before his visit, resulted in two memorable days for our nation.

With your work, the Maltese people could live fully this Pastoral Visit in peace and mind at rest so much so that no incidents were registered, nitwithstanding the great masses that gathered for the mass activities that happened between yesterday and today.

This visit therefore will also be remembered for the seriousness and professionality of our country's security forces and their management."

I think that all **MARL** members appreciate that the **MARL** Committee worked and is fully working in the members' interests and also for the good name of our Organization and our country even though sometimes it could not give the requested information.

As I have always brought to the attention of the **MARL** members, the number of members in the emergency group is limited at the request of the Civil Protection Department and applications were open to anyone who wanted to apply.

This does not stop all radio amateurs to prepare themselves and their equipment as I have written many times so that if God forbid an emergency occurs they will be able to work together to provide the required communications, both in Malta as well as with stations outside Malta.

Do not forget that in an emergency the first that are lost are electricity and cellular telephones. Therefore be prepared to work on batteries and/or electrical generators and to have antennas that you could use as required.

Lawrence
9H1AV/9H9MHR/9H79AV

World map

Today you have an internet link from where you can make a map centred on Malta so that you would know what direction to point your antenna.

You can make this map in a number of sizes as well as with colour or black and white only. I made one which you will find further down and if you print it you can take it with you because its size is A4.

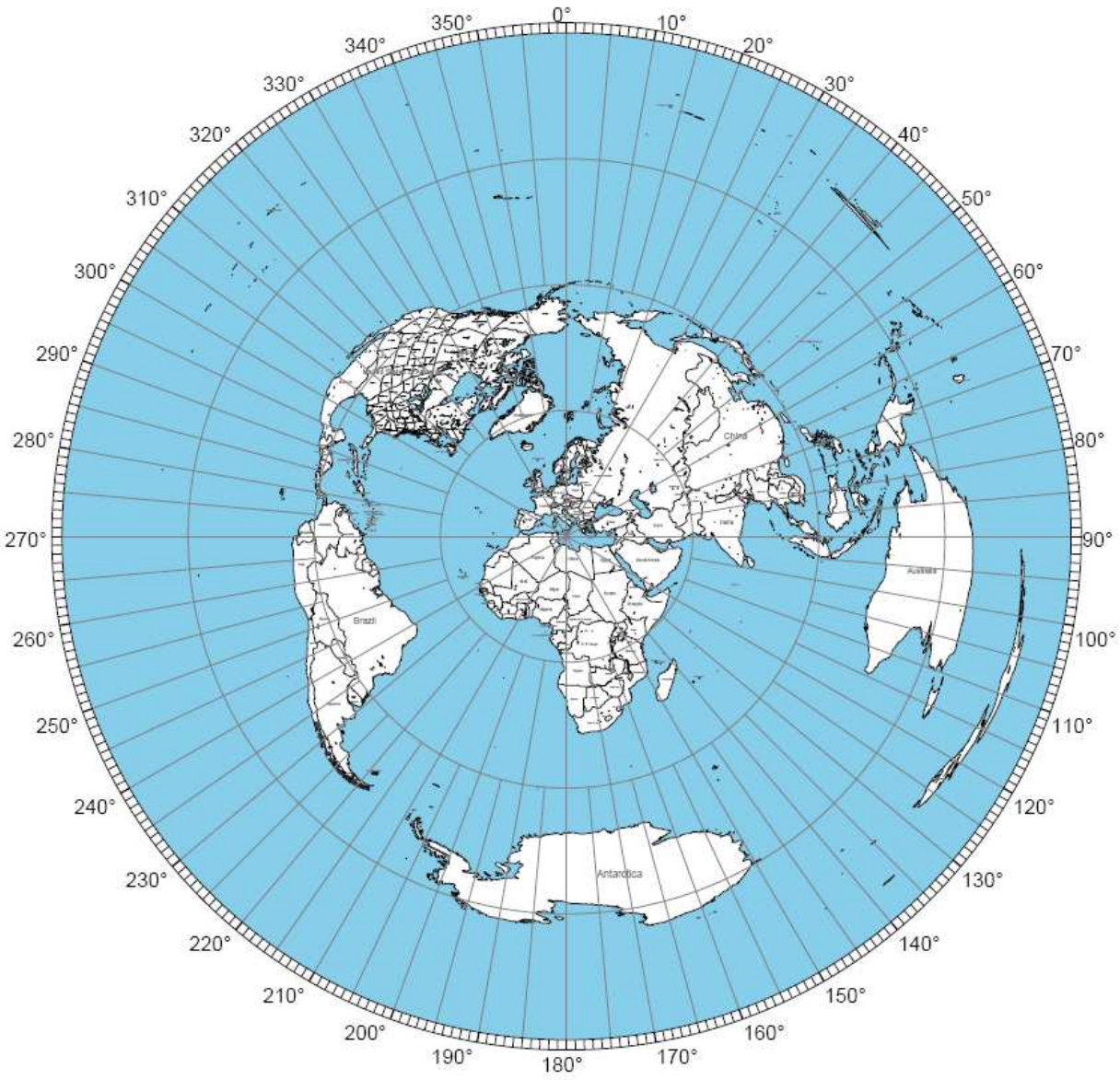
This link is **http://ns6t.net/azimuth/azimuth.html** All you have to do is to fill in the location, the distance and the size that you want it and whether you want it with colour or black and white.

Hereunder you have a copy, but I suggest that you go on the link and make one yourself in the size that you want and it will be in a PDF document.

Azimuthal Map

Center: 35°52'17"N 14°32'3"E

Courtesy of Tom (NS6T)



Map from http://ns6t.net/

Centred on 35^{0}52’17’’N u 14^{0}32’03’’E

There is also another page by **SM3GSJ http://www.qsl.net/sm3gsj/index.htm** who also has a programme that you can download and make similar maps and is also interesting. If you go on **http://www.hard-core-dx.com/nordicdx/dxlab/circlemaps.html** there are also a number of maps while there are a number of programmes on **http://www.qrz.co.il/handbook.php?pid=179**

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70MHz

You should know that the latest country whose radio amateurs were given permission to use the **70MHz** frequency is Romania. And Malta?

Lawrence
9H1AV/9H9MHR/9H79AV

MARL Activities

Spring Fair

At San Anton Garden

As in other years MARL was invited by the Malta Horticultural Society to take part in the Spring Fair that is going to be held at San Anton Garden on Sunday 2 May. MARL are going to start assembly at 8.00 in the morning.

It is important that whoever wants to take part should inform the Secretary as early as possible so that things could be organized.

As it is planned that the group will continue to operate from San Anton up to late afternoon it is also important to tell the Secretary at what time you will be available.

Yahoo Group

Be attentive and become members in the yahoo group to be fully informed with the latest activities that we intend to hold.

Do not forget that we may have activities which may not be able to appear on this magazine because it may have already been issued and therefore the notice will be sent on the yahoo group.

Send an e-mail to Ivan, 9H1PI ivan.privitera at gmail.com to become members in the group.

We remind you that whoever wants to can download the Magazine from www.9h1mrl.org/newsletter.htm

Lawrence
9H1AV/9H9MHR